quantity of urea was received by MMTC in April 1996. Indian Overseas Bank has taken up the release of above money to the National Oil Company, Libya through the Ministry of External Affairs. MMTC has no further liability or role in this transaction.

Trade related intellectual property rights

1522. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased state:

(a) whether India has violated the agreement on trade related intellectual property rights in case of agricultural, chemical and pharmaceuticals by not accepting patent applications immediately on the conclusion of Uruguay Round;

(b) if so, the consequences likely to follow; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to deal with them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) In pursuance of the provisions of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Dispute (DSU) and the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs Agreement) of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), a panel has been established to examine a complaint by the USA which alleges the absence in India of either patent protection for pharmaceutical and agricultural chemical products or formal systems that permit the filing of patent application for such products and that permit the grant of exclusive marketing rights in such products.

(b) and (c) The proceedings under the DSU of the WTO are underway. The Government proposes to participate actively in the process to defend its interests.

Information of Export Import Prices

1523. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved any mechanism to keep up-to-date information about the current export-import prices of items at the international level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Commerce does not keep up-to-date information about the current import-export prices at the international level since the Ministry does not itself import or export any commodity. However, depending on commodities of export or import interest to them, public sector trading companies like the State Trading Corporation (STC) and Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) keep tract of international price movements of items of their trade interest.

Techniques of Shrimp Farming

1524. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has successfully demonstrated Eco-friendly and stress free culture techniques of shrimp farming;

(b) if so, whether this technique is being spread over to other shrimp form areas; and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Wide publicity has been given to the techniques reaching enterprcneurs and farmers.

(c) During the year 1996-97 MPEDA

carried out 12 demonstration programmes in the maritime states of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Orissa which were attended by a large number of farmers. The demonstrations showed the farmers how culture techniques helped in reducing the stress for the shirmps and control of disease and pollution free environment was explained to the farmers.

Initiation of Anti-Dumping Proceedings

1525. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many requests for initiation of Anti-dumping proceedings have been turned down since 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof, reasons, case-wise for rejecting such requests, the name of the item for which petition was made and the name of the dumping country/company;

(c) whether any complaint or petition for levy of Anti-dumping duties been withdrawn on its own by the domestic industry, details thereof;

(d) whether a anti-dumping investigations were terminated on account of absence of dumping or injury or casual link between dumping and injury, as the case may be; and

(e) if so, the details thereof viz. item, dumping country and year of investigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) It has been ascertained from the Designated Authority appointed under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, to took in antidumping matters that investigations have been initiated in all cases where sufficient *prima facie* evidance of dumping, injury and causal link between dumping and injury have been found, and where other requirements of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and the rules made thereunder have been adequately fulfilled. A list of all cases where investigations have been initiated till date is at Statement *(See* below).

(c) On written request received from the petitioner, namely, M/s Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd., the investigations against imports of Low Carbon Ferro Chrome from Ukraine were terminated. The case was initiated on 6.6.95 and terminated on 21.5.96.

(d)and (e) Anti-duming investigations were terminated in the case of Styrene Butadiene Rubber imported from Republic of Korea & Japan in the absence[s] of any injury to the domestic industry. Investigations were initiated on 12.8.92 on a petition received from M/s Synthetic & Chemicals Ltd. and was terminated vide Official Gazette Notification No. 14/1Q/92-TPD dated 17.2.93.